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Personal: *Born:* January 26, 1967, in Evanston, Illinois

Academic Positions

Professor, University of Colorado (2007-present)
Associate Professor (2003-2007); Assistant Professor (1999-2003)
Department Chair (2004-2006); Director of Graduate Studies (2001-2003, 2009)
Assistant Professor, St. Joseph's University [Philadelphia] (1995-99)

Education

Cornell University (1989-94) M.A., March 1992; Ph.D., August 1994
Dissertation: "Forms of Knowing: Theories of Cognition in the Later Middle Ages"
(under the supervision of Norman Kretzmann)
University of Pennsylvania (1985-89) B.A. (magna cum laude) in Philosophy & History;
Phi Beta Kappa; Executive Editor of *The Daily Pennsylvanian* (1988)

Research Interests: Epistemology and metaphysics, from antiquity to modernity

Awards and Fellowships

2016	Hope & Optimism Fellowship (Templeton)
2015	NEH Summer Institute (director)
2014	Isaiah Berlin Visiting Professor in the History of Ideas (Oxford)
2014	Kayden Book Prize for <i>Metaphysical Themes</i> (CU/Boulder)
2012	College Scholar Award (CU/Boulder)
2011	NEH Summer Fellowship
2006	Provost's Research Prize (CU/Boulder)
2005	APA Book Prize for <i>Thomas Aquinas on Human Nature</i>
2004	Faculty Fellowship (CU/Boulder)
2004	NEH Summer Seminar (co-director)
2003	ACLS-Mellon Junior Faculty Fellowship
1994	Scholar in Residence, Catholic University of America
1993	Exchange Scholar, Harvard University

Publications

Monographs

After Certainty: Historical Reflections on Our Epistemic Ideals and Illusions (Oxford University Press, 2017), 375 pp.

Metaphysical Themes 1274-1671 (Oxford University Press, 2011), 796 pp.

The Philosophy of Aquinas (Westview, 2003), 264 pp. (2nd ed. Oxford University Press, 2016) (co-authored with Christopher Shields).

Thomas Aquinas on Human Nature. A Philosophical Study of Summa Theologiae 1a 75-89 (Cambridge University Press, 2002), 500 pp.

Theories of Cognition in the Later Middle Ages (Cambridge University Press, 1997), 330 pp. (Chinese translation by Hongbo Yu [Peking University Press, 2018].)

Edited Volumes and Translations

Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy, vols. 1-6 (Oxford University Press, 2013-2018)

The Cambridge History of Medieval Philosophy (Cambridge University Press, 2010), 2 v., 1220 pp.

Cambridge Translations of Medieval Philosophical Texts. Volume III: Mind and Knowledge (Cambridge University Press, 2002), 374 pp.

Thomas Aquinas, *Treatise on Human Nature: Summa Theologiae I.75-89*, translated with commentary (Hackett, 2002), 427 pp.

Thomas Aquinas, *Commentary on Aristotle's De anima*, translated (Yale, 1999), 450 pp.

Articles

"Belief in a Fallen World," *Res Philosophica* (Special Issue on the Philosophy of Religion) 95 (2018) 531-59.

"On What There Is in Aquinas," in J. Hause (ed.), *Aquinas's Summa theologiae: A Critical Guide* (Cambridge University Press, 2018) 10-28.

"Qualitative Change," in J. T. Paasch and R. Cross (eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Medieval Philosophy* (forthcoming).

"Therapeutic Reflections on Our Bipolar History of Perception," *Analytic Philosophy* 57 (2016) 253-84.

"A Lewisian History of Philosophy," in B. Loewer and J. Schaffer (eds.), *A Companion to David Lewis* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2015) 60-79.

"Disagreement and the Value of Self-Trust," *Philosophical Studies* 172 (2015) 2315-2339.

- “Snatching Hope from the Jaws of Epistemic Defeat,” *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* 1 (2015) 257-75.
- “Veiled Disagreement,” *Journal of Philosophy* 111 (2014) 608-30.
- “On *Metaphysical Themes*: Replies to Critics,” *Philosophical Studies* 171 (2014) 37-50.
- “Epistemology Idealized,” *Mind* 122 (2013) 987-1021.
- “Divisions of Epistemic Labor: Some Remarks on the History of Fideism and Esotericism,” *Proceedings of the British Academy* 189 (2013) 83-117.
- “The Latin Aristotle,” in C. Shields (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook to Aristotle* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012) 665-89.
- “Mind and Hylomorphism,” in J. Marenbon (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Philosophy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012) 486-504.
- “Philosophy of Mind and Human Nature,” in B. Davies and E. Stump (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Aquinas* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012) 348-68.
- “Scholastic Qualities, Primary and Secondary,” in L. Nolan (ed.) *Primary and Secondary Qualities: The Historical and Ongoing Debate* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011) 41-61.
- “On Existing All at Once,” in C. Tapp and E. Runggaldier (eds.) *God, Eternity, and Time* (Burlington: Ashgate, 2011) 11-28.
- “Medieval Social Epistemology: *Scientia* for Mere Mortals,” *Episteme* 7 (2010) 23-41.
- “Science and Certainty,” in R. Pasnau (ed.) *Cambridge History of Medieval Philosophy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010) 357-68.
- “Form and Matter,” in R. Pasnau (ed.) *Cambridge History of Medieval Philosophy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010) 635-46.
- “The Event of Color,” *Philosophical Studies* 142 (2009) 353-69.
- “A Sotyl Thing withouten Tonge and Teeth: Soul’s Dialogue with Body, and Literature’s Dialogue with Philosophy,” *English Language Notes* 47 (2009) 135-45 (co-authored with Elizabeth Robertson).
- “Id Quo Cognoscimus,” in S. Knuuttila and P. Kärkkäinen (eds.) *Theories of Perception in Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy* (Dordrecht: Springer, 2008) 131-49.
- “Mind and Extension (Descartes, Hobbes, More)” in H. Lagerlund (ed.) *Forming the Mind: Essays on the Internal Senses and the Mind/Body Problem from Avicenna to the Medical Enlightenment* (Dordrecht: Springer, 2007) 283-310.
- “Democritus and Secondary Qualities,” *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* 89 (2007) 99-121.
- “The Mind-Soul Problem,” in P.J.J.M. Bakker and J.M.M.H. Thijssen (eds.), *Mind, Cognition, and Representation: The Tradition of Commentaries on Aristotle’s De anima* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007) 3-19.
- “Abstract Truth in Thomas Aquinas,” in H. Lagerlund (ed.), *Representation and Objects of Thought in Medieval Philosophy* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007) 33-63.

- “A Theory of Secondary Qualities,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 73 (2006) 568-91.
- “Form, Substance, and Mechanism,” *Philosophical Review* 113 (2004) 31-88.
- “Human Nature” in A. S. McGrade (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Medieval Philosophy* (Cambridge University Press, 2003) 208-30.
- “Souls and the Beginning of Life (A Reply to Haldane and Lee),” *Philosophy* 78 (2003) 509-19.
- “Cognition,” in T. Williams (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to Duns Scotus* (Cambridge University Press, 2003) 285-311.
- “What is Cognition? A Reply to Some Critics,” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 76 (2002) 483-90.
- “Intentionality and Final Causes,” in D. Perler (ed.) *Ancient and Medieval Theories of Intentionality* (Brill, 2001) 301-23.
- “Sensible Qualities: The Case of Sound,” *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 38 (2000) 27-40.
- “Plotting Augustine's *Confessions*,” *Logos* 3 (2000) 77-106.
- “Olivi on Human Freedom” in *Pierre De Jean Olivi (1248-1298)* (Paris: Vrin, 1999) 15-25.
- “What is Sound?” *Philosophical Quarterly* 49 (1999) 309-24.
- “Divine Illumination,” *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (originally published in 1999), 7976 words.
- “Peter John Olivi,” *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (originally published in 1999), 8340 words.
- “Aquinas and the Content Fallacy,” *Modern Schoolman* 75 (1998) 293-314.
- “Aquinas on Thought's Linguistic Nature,” *Monist* 80 (1997) 558-75.
- “Olivi on the Metaphysics of Soul,” *Medieval Philosophy and Theology* 6 (1997) 109-32.
- “Petri Iohannis Olivi Tractatus de verbo” in *Franciscan Studies (Essays in Honor of Fr. Gedeon Gál)* 53 (1993) 121-53 [published in 1997].
- “Who Needs an Answer to Skepticism?” *American Philosophical Quarterly* 33 (1996) 421-32.
- “William Heytesbury on Knowledge: Epistemology Without Necessary and Sufficient Conditions,” *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 12 (1995) 347-66.
- “Henry of Ghent and the Twilight of Divine Illumination,” *Review of Metaphysics* 49 (1995) 49-75.
- “Justified Until Proven Guilty: William Alston's New Epistemology” *Philosophical Studies* 72 (1993) 1-33.

Brief Works

- “Mysticism's Threat to Doctrine,” *English Language Notes* 56 (2018) 213-15.
- Review of Therese Cory, *Aquinas on Human Self-Knowledge*, in *Mind* 124 (2015) 623-26.
- Review of Thomas M. Ward, *John Duns Scotus on Parts, Wholes, and Hylomorphism*, in *Notre Dame*

- Philosophical Reviews* (2015) <<https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/55753-john-duns-scotus-on-parts-wholes-and-hylomorphism/>>.
- “Why Not Just Weigh the Fish,” *New York Times (The Stone)* (June 29, 2014) <<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/06/29/why-not-just-weigh-the-fish/>>
- Review of Nicole Oresme, *Questiones super Physicam*, in *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 52 (2014) 610-11 (co-authored with Tyler Huismann).
- “Response to Arlig and Symington” [symposium on *Metaphysical Themes*], in G. Klima and A. W. Hall (eds.) *Metaphysical Themes, Medieval and Modern (Proceedings of the Society for Medieval Logic and Metaphysics*, vol. 11) (Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars, 2014), 57-72.
- Review of Wallace Matson, *Grand Theories and Everyday Beliefs* in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2012) <ndpr.nd.edu/news/32152-grand-theories-and-everyday-beliefs-science-philosophy-and-their-histories> (co-authored with Joseph Stenberg).
- “The Islamic Scholar Who Gave Us Modern Philosophy,” *Humanities* (Nov/Dec 2011) 34-37, 51.
- Review of John Cottingham and Peter Hacker (eds.), *Mind Method, and Morality: Essays in Honour of Anthony Kenny*, in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2010) <ndpr.nd.edu/news/24402-mind-method-and-morality-essays-in-honour-of-anthony-kenny>.
- Review of Eleonore Stump, *Aquinas*, in *Mind* 114 (2005) 203-6.
- Review of Thomas Aquinas, *On Evil* (translations by R. Regan and J.A. & J.T. Oesterle) in *Review of Metaphysics* 57 (2004) 599-601.
- Review of Anthony Kenny, *Aquinas on Being*, in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2003) <ndpr.icaap.org/content/archives/2003/12/pasnau-kenny.html>.
- “William Crathorn,” in J. Gracia and T. Noone (eds.) *The Blackwell Companion to Medieval Philosophy* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2003) 692-93.
- Review of Stephen J. Pope, *The Ethics of Aquinas*, in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (2003) <ndpr.icaap.org/content/archives/2003/1/pasnau-pope.html>.
- Review of Dennis Des Chene, *Life's Form: Late Aristotelian Conceptions of the Soul*, in *The Philosophical Review* 111 (2002) 308-10.
- Review of Richard Cross, *The Physics of Duns Scotus: The Scientific Context of a Theological Vision*, in *Speculum* 77 (2002) 1268-70.
- Review of Armand Maurer, *The Philosophy of William of Ockham in the Light of Its Principles* in *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 38 (2000) 590-91.
- Review of John Finnis, *Aquinas: Moral, Political, and Legal Theory* in *Faith and Philosophy* 17 (2000) 407-13.
- Review of Jerome I. Gellman, *Experience of God and the Rationality of Theistic Belief* in *Philosophical Review* 107 (1998) 624-26.
- The Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (1998). Articles on Peter Aureol, William Crathorn, Robert Holcot, and Peter John Olivi.

Review of Roderick Chisholm, *A Realistic Theory of Categories* in *Review of Metaphysics* 51 (1998) 666-67.

Review of John Wippel, *Mediaeval Reactions to the Encounter Between Faith and Reason* in *Review of Metaphysics* 50 (1997) 179-80.

Review of Thomas Nagel, *Other Minds: Critical Essays 1969-1994* in *Review of Metaphysics* 50 (1997) 166-68.

Review of Simon Kemp, *Cognitive Psychology in the Middle Ages* in *Isis* 88 (1997) 703-4.

Review of Francisco Suárez, *On Efficient Causality. Metaphysical Disputations 17, 18, and 19* (translated by Alfred Freddoso) in *Philosophical Review* 105 (1996) 533-35.

Review of Stephen Everson, *Language (Companions to Ancient Thought 3)* in *Review of Metaphysics* 49 (1996) 650-51.

Review of Robert Fogelin, *Pyrrhonian Reflections on Knowledge and Justification* in *Review of Metaphysics* 49 (1996) 653-54.

Review of Robert Audi, *Action, Intention, and Reason* in *Review of Metaphysics* 49 (1995) 398-400

Review of Anthony Kenny, *Aquinas on Mind* in *Philosophical Review* 103 (1994) 745-48.

Review of Richard Dales, *Medieval Discussions of the Eternity of the World* in *Speculum* (July 1992) 654-656 (co-authored with Norman Kretzmann).

Other Professional Activities

Founding editor of *Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy* (since 2012)

General editor of the Hackett Aquinas Project, a series of translations with commentary of Aquinas's central philosophical texts.

Founding director (2000-2013) of the Colorado Summer Seminar, an annual three-week course for upper-level undergraduates nationwide who are considering graduate school in philosophy.

Director (since 2011) of the CU/Boulder Center for Western Civilization, Thought and Policy.

Editorial boards of *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Oxford Guides*, *Oxford Philosophical Concepts*, *Philosophy Compass*, *Vivarium*, *Medieval Philosophy: Texts and Studies* (Fordham), *Ancient and Medieval Philosophy* (Leuven).

Work in Progress

My work at present includes studying medieval Islamic philosophy, developing a series of papers on the ethics of belief, writing a popular history of the long debate between science and philosophy, and working on a monograph on voluntarism in the fourteenth century.

Selected Recent and Notable Lectures

Authors Meets Critics Session on *After Certainty*, Central APA, March 2019
Mid-Hudson Valley Philosophy Conference (keynote address) September 2018
Chinese Society for Medieval Philosophy (inaugural keynote address), Beijing, May 2018
Workshop on *After Certainty*, Paris IV–Sorbonne, March 2018
“Socratic Guises and Epistemic Biases” University of Virginia (colloquium), Oct. 2017
“Belief in a Fallen World” University of Victoria (Lansdowne Lecture), Feb. 2017
“How Long Do Arguments Last” Amherst College (colloquium), April 2016
“Origins of Epistemic Justification” UConn (colloquium), April 2016
“Our Bipolar History of Perception” Texas/Austin (*Analytic Philosophy* Symposium) Dec. 2015
“Before There Was Epistemology” Univ. Nebraska/Lincoln (Evans Lecture) Sept. 2015
“After Certainty, What?” St. Andrews (Conceptual History Workshop) June 2015
“Ideas as Objects of Perception” Uppsala (colloquium) June 2015
“What the Medievals Missed in Aristotle” Cornell (Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy) May 2015
“Our Long Quest for Certainty” Fordham University (Suarez Lecture) April 2015
Week-Long Seminar on *Metaphysical Themes*, Wake Forest, July 2014
“After Certainty: A History of our Epistemic Ideals” Oxford (Isaiah Berlin Lectures) May-June 2014
“Pourquoi les idées sont-elles devenues des objets?” University of Paris, June 2014
“The Domain of Sensory Privilege” Gothenburg Philosophical Society, November 2013
“Ideas as Objects of Perception” Ohio State (colloquium) October 2013
“A Lewisian History of Philosophy” Princeton (seminar presentation) April 2013
Author Meets Critics Symposium on *Metaphysical Themes 1274-1671*, Pacific APA, March 2013
“Seeing an Argument All at Once” Cornell (colloquium), April 2012
“Philosophical Beauty” Central APA (invited colloquium) February 2012
“Divisions of Epistemic Labor” British Academy (Dawes Hicks Lecture) October 2011
“Philosophical Beauty” PhilProgress Conference (Harvard), September 2011
“Nominal Powers” Oxford Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, October 2010
“Modes” New England Colloquium in Early Modern Philosophy (Harvard), May 2009
“Locke’s Familiar Substratum” SW Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy (Cal Tech), Feb. 2009
“Does Anything Exist All at Once?” Humboldt University (Berlin), September 2008
“Medieval Secondary Qualities” University of Toronto, September 2008
“Accidents and Modes” University of Illinois/Chicago (colloquium), October 2007
“*Entia successiva*” International Congress for the Study of Medieval Philosophy, Palermo, Sept. 2007
“Enduring Matter” NYU (colloquium) October 2006